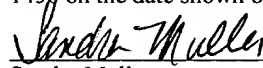


IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of: Gan Zhou
Serial No.: 09/840,363
Filing Date: April 23, 2001
Group Art Unit: 2874
Examiner: Unknown
Title: OPTICAL INTERFEROMETER FOR MULTIPLEXING
OPTICAL SIGNALS

COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
P.O. Box 1450
ALEXANDRIA, VA 22313-1450

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450 on the date shown below.


Sandra Muller

9/7/04
Date of Signature

Dear Sir:

SECOND REQUEST FOR STATUS

Applicant respectfully inquires as to the status of the above-identified patent application. Applicant previously filed a Request for Status on March 10, 2003. Applicant received a communication dated March 14, 2003 indicating a communication on the merits would be received in 15 months. However, Applicant has not received any communication on the merits. Accordingly, Applicant is filing this Second Request for Status to respectfully inquire about the status of the present application, and in particular to request notice of when the first Office Action on the merits will be issued.

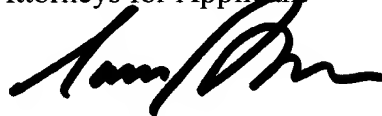
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REMARKS

If there are any matters that can be cleared up through a telephone conversation, please contact the undersigned attorney for Applicant at (214) 953-6581.

Respectfully submitted,

BAKER BOTTS L.L.P.
Attorneys for Applicant



Samir A. Bhavsar
Reg. No. 41,617

Date: September 7, 2004

Correspondence Address:

at Customer No. **05073**